

REMARKS

Foreign Priority:

The Examiner has not yet acknowledged Applicant's claim to foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d), or receipt of the certified copy of the priority document.

Therefore, Applicant hereby requests the Examiner acknowledge both the Applicant's claim to foreign priority and receipt of the priority document.

Information Disclosure Statement:

Applicant thanks the Examiner for initialing and returning Form PTO/SB/08 A & B filed on April 5, 2002, thus indicating that all of the references listed thereon have been considered.

Claim Rejections:

Claims 1-9 are all of the claims pending in the present application, and currently all of the claims stand rejected.

35 U.S.C. § 102(e) Rejection - Claims 1, 3 and 6-9:

Claims 1, 3 and 6-9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,049,821 to Theriault et al. In view of the following discussion, Applicant respectfully traverses the above rejection.

As discussed in Applicant's previous response, Theriault discloses a system having an information source 140 with a information storage 150, a host computer 290 having an enhanced proxy 300 which is connected to the information source 140 through a network 120, and browsers 100 and 101, each of which is connected to the enhanced proxy 290 through a local network 230. Each of the browsers 100 and 101 sends a query 160 to a query filter 302 in the

enhanced proxy 300, which filters the query 160 to send a modified query 360 to the information source 140. The information source 140 retrieves the information from the attached information storage 150 in response to the modified query 360 and sends a response 170 to a response filter 304 of the enhanced proxy 300, which filters the response 170 to send a modified response 370 to the browser 100 or 101.

For the filtering, the proxy 300 is coupled to a proxy configuration database 340 which has lists indicative of relations between restricted sites in the information source 140 and each type of browsers (browser protocol) to deny an access by a specific browser to specific URL sites or classes of URL sites. However, this means that all of the client devices, each having the specific browser, can not access the specific URL sites or classes of URL sites.

Applicant submits that in view of the foregoing, it is clear that the lists of Theriault are different from the "access right table" of claims 1, 6, and 8. Namely, in the claimed invention the access right table "indicates types of data to which an access is granted/denied for each of [the] plurality of client devices with respect to the plurality of the data types in [the] database ". See claims 1, 6 and 8. Thus, Theriault fails to disclose each and every feature of the claimed invention.

Similarly, since all users in Theriault, each having the specific browser, can not access specific URL sites or classes of URL sites, it is clear that the lists of Theriault are different from the access right table of claims 3, 7, and 9. Therefore, Theriault does not disclose the claimed "determining means", and thus fails to disclose each and every feature of the claimed invention.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits that Theriault fails to disclose each and every element of the claimed invention, in particular the claimed etching adjustment layer. Therefore, Theriault fails to anticipate the claimed invention, as required under the provisions of 35 U.S.C. § 102(e). Accordingly, Applicant hereby requests the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) rejection of the above claims.

35 U.S.C. § 103(a) Rejection - Claims 2 and 4:

Claims 2 and 4 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Theriault in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,944,825 to Bellemore et al. However, because these claims depend on claims 1 and 3, respectively, and because Bellemore fails to cure the deficient teachings of Theriault with respect to claims 1 or 3, Applicant submits that these claims are also allowable, at least by reason of their dependence.

35 U.S.C. § 103(a) Rejection - Claim 5:

Claim 5 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Theriault in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,236,996 to Bapat et al. However, because this claim depends on claim 5, and because Bapat fails to cure the deficient teachings of Theriault with respect to claim 3, Applicant submits that this claim is also allowable, at least by reason of its dependence.

Conclusion:

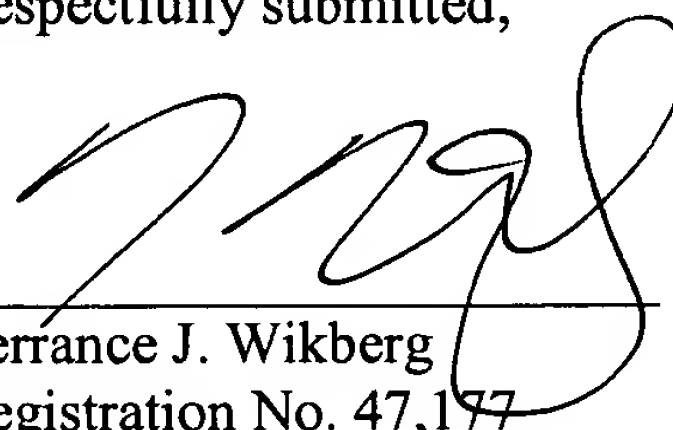
In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111
Application No. 09/961,268

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The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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